

WHEREAS, we hold the highest esteem and reverence for the men and women who answer the call to serve their friends, family and communities; and,

WHEREAS, first responders save countless lives every year with their heroic efforts; and,

WHEREAS, firefighters not only demonstrate the desire to serve, but have the courage to act calmly and professionally in otherwise terrifying situations; and,

WHEREAS, in the early hours of October 3, 2010 one of these brave souls, Assistant Fire Chief Thomas Innes of the Hindsboro Community Fire District, was suddenly taken from us; and,

WHEREAS, we will always remember that throughout his career as a proud member of the Hindsboro Community Fire District, Assistant Fire Chief Innes courageously volunteered to walk into fires as everyone else ran out; and,

WHEREAS, although Assistant Fire Chief Innes is no longer with us, we will not forget the countless lives that were impacted by his public service, including those individuals he assisted in the last hours of his life; and,

WHEREAS, Assistant Fire Chief Innes is survived by his wife and four children. Not only did he serve the citizens of Hindsboro and of this great state, but was a hero in his role as a husband and a father; and,

WHEREAS, funeral services for Assistant Fire Chief Innes will be held on Friday, October 8, 2010:

THEREFORE, I, Pat Quinn, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby order all persons or entities governed by the Illinois Flag Display Act to fly their flags at half-staff immediately until sunset on October 8, 2010 in honor and remembrance of Assistant Fire Chief Innes, whose selfless service and sacrifice is an inspiration.